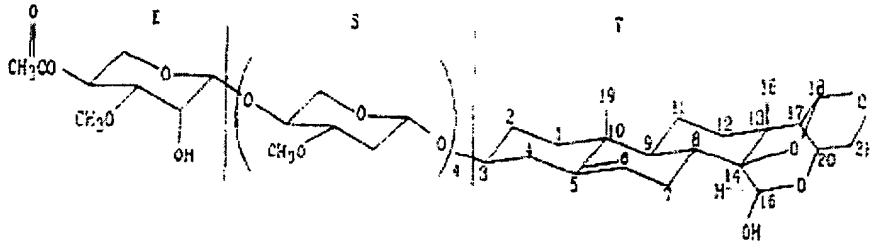
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A compound having the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Amended) A compound having the formula EST, wherein:

a) E and S define a saponin oligosugar portion, with E defining the terminal sugar portion thereof;

b) and T defines a steroid-like portion, wherein T is a pregnane-3β-ol derivative.

3. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein S is selected from the group consisting of a tetra sugar derivative, a monomeric sugar derivative and an aligomeric of sugar derivatives.

4. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein S is selected from the group consisting of α(1-4) (2-deoxy, 3-methoxy) -L-lyxotetrose, α(1-4) (2-deoxy, 3-methoxy) L-xylotetrose, α(1-4) (2-deoxy, 3-methoxy)-L-arabinotetrose, α(1-4) (2-deoxy, 3-methoxy)-L-xylotetrose, α(1-4) (2-deoxy, 3-methoxy-L-ribopyranotetrose, α(1-4) (2-deoxy, 3 methoxy-L-sorbotetrose, α(1-4)-L-lyxotetrose, α(1-4)-L-xylotetrose, α(1-4)-L-arabinotetrose, α(1-4)-L-xylotetrose, α(1-4)-3, 4 methoxy-L-lyxotetrose, α(1-4)-3, 4 methoxy-L-xylotetrose, α(1-4)-3,4 methoxy-L-arabinotetrose, α(1-4)-3,4 methoxy-L-xylotetrose, α(1-4)-3,4 methoxy-L-ribopyranotetrose, α(1-4)-3,4 methoxy-L-sorbopyranotetrose, α(1-4)-L-lyxotetrose, α(1-4)-L-xylotetrose,

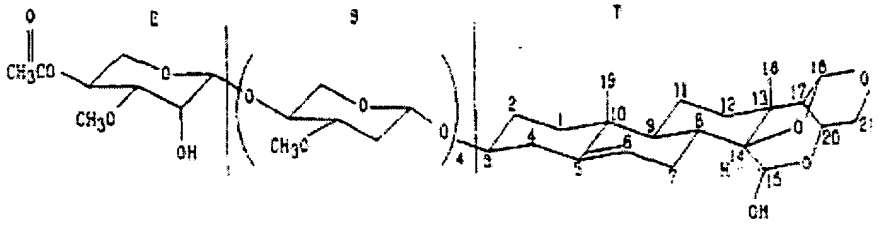
α(1-4)-L-arabinotetrose, α(1-4)-L-ribopyranotetrose, oleantrose, and α(1-4)-L-sorbotetrose.

5. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein E is selected from the group consisting of 4-acetoxy-3 methoxy-L-α-lyxose, 4-acetoxy-3-methoxy-L-α-xylose, 4-acetoxy-3-methoxy-L-α-arabinose, 4-acetoxy-3-methoxy-L-α-xylose, -acetoxy-3-methoxy-L-α-ribopyranose, diacetylfucose, and 4-acetoxy-3-methoxy-L-α-sorbose-acetoxy.

6. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein T is selected from the group consisting of 5-pregnane-3-ol oxytricyclo- 15-ol, illustrol, 5-pregnane-3-ol-20-one, cholesterol, cholic acid, ergosterol, stigmasterol, androstenon, digitoxygenin, β-sitosterol, uvaol, ursolic acid, sarsasapogenin, 18,β -glycyrrhetinic acid, betulin, betulinic acid, oleanoic acid, and padocarpic acid.

7. (Amended) The compound of claim 2, wherein said compound is capable of displaying an inhibitory activity of the steady state R-type calcium channel.

8. (Amended) A R-type Ca^{2+} channel blocker having the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

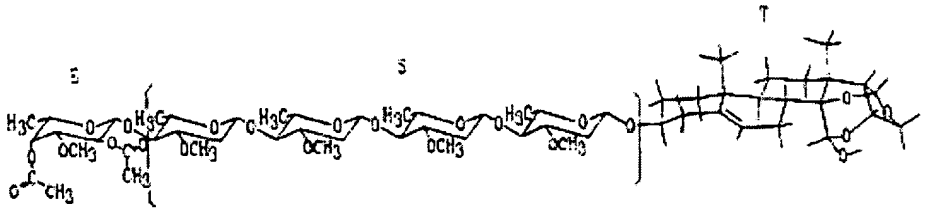
9. (Amended) A specific R-type calcium channel inhibitor having the structure of the compound of claim 29.

11. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 11 for at least one of treating or blocking overstimulation of R-type Ca^{2+} channels associated with a disease or condition in a warm blooded animal, or for blocking or relieving side effects of a drug which overstimulate R-type CA^{2+} channels, or for the prevention or treatment of a disease or condition in which a sustained elevation of $[Ca]_c$, $[Ca]_n$ or R-type Ca^{2+} blocking is encountered.

Please add the following new claims:

28. The compound of claim 1, having the formula:

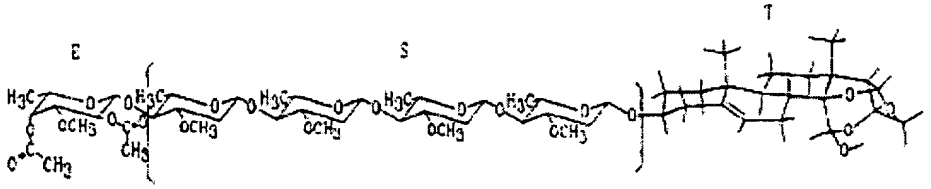


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. The compound of claim 2, wherein T has the structure shown in Figure 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 1G or 1H.

30. The compound of claim 6, wherein S is L oleandrose, E is 3-O-methylether 2, 4 diacetylfucose, and T is 5-pregnane-3ß-ol oxytricyclo 15-ol.

31. R-type Ca^{2+} channel blocker of Claim 8, having the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

32. A pharmaceutical composition, comprising at least one compound of claim 2, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

33. A method of treating or preventing a disease or condition associated with an overstimulation of R-type Ca^{2+} channels without significantly affecting the basal activity thereof comprising an administration of an effective amount of the compound of claim 2, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

34. A method of treating or preventing a disease or condition associated with a sustained elevation of $[Ca]_c$, $[Ca]_n$, R-type Ca^{2+} blocking, and/or cytosolic and nuclear Ca^{2+} accumulation, comprising an administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a R-type Ca^{2+} channel blocker compound according to claim 2, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

35. A method for decreasing proliferation of cancer and tumor cells comprising an incubation thereof with an effective amount of a R-type Ca^{2+} channel blocker compound according to claim 2, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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36. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of claim 28, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

37. A method of treating or preventing a disease or condition associated with an overstimulation of R-type Ca^{2+} channels without significantly affecting the basal activity thereof comprising an administration of an effective amount of the compound of claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

38. A method of treating or preventing a disease or condition associated with a sustained elevation of $[Ca]_c$, $[Ca]_n$, R-type Ca^{2+} blocking, and/or cytosolic and nuclear Ca^{2+} accumulation, comprising an administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a R-type Ca^{2+} channel blocker compound according to claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

39. A method for decreasing proliferation of cancer and tumor cells comprising an incubation thereof with an effective amount of a R-type Ca^{2+} channel blocker compound according to claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Cl 3 concld

40. A method of treating or preventing a disease or condition associated with an overstimulation of R-type Ca^{2+} channels without significantly affecting the basal activity thereof comprising an administration of an effective amount of a compound having the structure shown in Figure 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 1G or 1H, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.